NATIONAL FOREIGN TRADE COUNCIL, INC.

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Governor Aníbal Acevedo-Vilá Commonwealth of Puerto Rico P.O. Box 902082 San Juan, PR 00902-0082

Dear Governor Acevedo-Vilá:

Enclosed please find a report recently released by the National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC) regarding the benefits of trade for U.S. states and important trade policy issues that have been raised in the ongoing public debate on trade. Knowing of your interest in global trade and its importance to the economy of your state, we hope you will find this guide useful.

The report, "The United States and Global Trade: A State Legislator's Guide to Maximizing Economic Opportunity through Trade," was prepared as a resource for state officials who wish to better understand the foundation and substance of the U.S. international trade policy and the critical role of trade agreements in generating economic benefits at the state level. Equally important, it also serves to respond to certain unsubstantiated claims about the impact of trade agreements on individual states.

The NFTC is a premier U.S. business organization advocating a rules-based world economy. Founded in 1914 by a group of American companies that supported an open world trading system, the NFTC and its affiliates now serve more than 300 member companies employing tens of thousands of U.S. workers.

The role of America in the world economy and the impact of international trade on the U.S. have never been more important. We hope that this report is useful in state government education efforts not only of legislators, but also of businesses and the public at large. The report is also available on the NFTC website at <u>www.nftc.org</u>.

Sincerely,

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William A. Reinsch President

Enclosure

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